

FORT DES MOINES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Love God Love People Serve Everyone

WWW.GODSFORT.ORG



Office:
515-285-1254

Fort Connections

Service Times:
Sunday School- 9 AM
Worship- 10 AM

Mike Demastus

October 2017



From my friend and brother Cary Gordon:

1 Corinthians 7:9 was given in the context of whether or not a responsible Christian individual was able, by the grace of God, to live in celibacy. (This, during a time of extreme physical danger due to violent antichristian persecution often ending in premature death; the situation is directly mentioned in 4:11-16, and alluded to again, in 7:29-31). A CELIBATE Apostle Paul says in the verse preceding this one that he wishes "all men were even as I myself, but every man hath his proper gift of God." From this we glean that celibacy is a spiritual gift of grace, and if we are given that grace we should esteem it, but if not, we enter into danger by attempting life outside of the grace we've been granted from God.

But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion. (1 Corinthians 7:9, NIV)

Said another way, it is better to remain celibate during deadly times, because the pain of death is more severe inside a marriage than outside of one. (All of you who are married know you'd rather die for Christ than watch your wife and children die for Christ, no?) But, if a person does not have grace from God for celibacy, the CELIBATE Apostle Paul writes that it is better to get married and face the trials of persecution (potentially against your wife and children) than to act outside of grace, and fall into sexual sin because you left the protection of grace. Imagine facing persecution for your Christianity while inwardly struggling with fornication. It is better to face Satan from a position of moral right-standing with God. (Very logical and wholesome advice for that time in church history).

The goal of this passage is more a "how to stay inside the grace of God and avoid sin" than it is a "how to be sinfully immature and unqualified for marriage, but get married anyway." It is the latter concept where this verse is abused to justify flippant, shot-gun marriages ("Hey, I was really horny, so we ignored the wisdom the Bible gives single persons and rushed into this!") that I am directly confronting for everyone's blessing, here. Clearly, 1 Corinthians 7:9 is not a passage of scripture intended to provide an escape clause for all young people who wish to ignore the gems of male and female responsibility unpacked in Genesis including, but not limited to, the concept of property ownership; the purpose of being single prior to marriage; marriage wisdom offered in the Song of Solomon, Psalms and Proverbs; the rich depths of marriage revealed in the New Testament, etc. No, it is definitely not a passage that should be used as an excuse to prematurely leap into marriage and ignore sound Biblical principles that must be heeded in order to be fit for marriage.

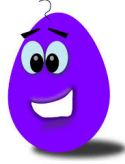
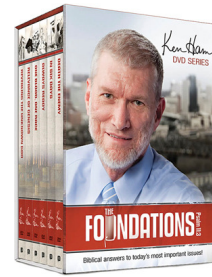
In this letter, Paul is teaching both men and women how to direct their passions into conformity to God's word, not excusing, or worse, promoting an unwillingness to be mature about such a sacred and holy covenant referred to elsewhere as a picture of the mystery of "Christ and His church". This passage could never have been intended to reduce marriage to a shallow, last-ditch outlet for sexual gratification at the expense of the depths of what Biblical marriage actually was designed to be. Nothing in the Bible has ever suggested such glandular shallowness as grounds for a solid and blessed lifelong marriage! Misusing the intent of this verse, (as my fellow clergy have for at least the last 60 years), feeds the American divorce rate and harms children every bit as much as premarital sex.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please notify us by e-mail secretary@godsfort.org or call 515-285-1254.

Sunday, October 8th the adults will be starting a 12 week series during Sunday School entitled "The Foundations". Ken Ham will be teaching on

- * Relevance of Genesis
 - Apologia
- Revealing the Unknown God
 - In Six Days
- One Blood, One Race
 - Death, The Enemy

Please take this time to learn and grow!



We will NOT have Bible Study on Wednesday, October 25th.



P E R S N H O O D F o r t D e s M o i n e s

We have a Personhood group at The Fort so that we can:

Pray: We pray for the pregnancy centers in our area, we pray for an end to abortion, we pray for our involvement in the fight.

Educate: We watch videos to help prepare us to have an answer for why we believe what we do.

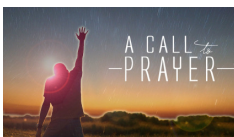
Equip: We have speakers come to our group to tell us about their ministries that are related to the issue of life. We have also gone to clinics to tour the facilities.

Plan: We make plans to do something to help unborn babies, women and men!

Serve: We aren't a group that just says we are pro-life. We are involved!

Why don't you join us at our next meeting on Monday, October 2nd at 6:30!

PFD and Concerned Women for America are sponsoring a Southside Life Chain on Sunday, October 1st from 2:00-3:30. We will stage our Life Chain in front of Planned Parenthood on Army Post Road. This even is NOT a protest. It is a prayerful event for Christians to stand in solidarity and proclaim to the world that abortion is wrong. Make plans now to attend.



We usually have a Prayer Meeting on the first Sunday of every month at 8:00 am. For the month of October our meeting will be on **the 8th**. We will be praying for our Country and our elected officials, our Church and the ministries and missions we support, and the Families of The Fort.

If you have any questions, please talk to Shannon.

Everyone in the church is invited!

Fort Facts

Total Income for July: \$12,743.05

Total Expenses for July: \$16,023.43



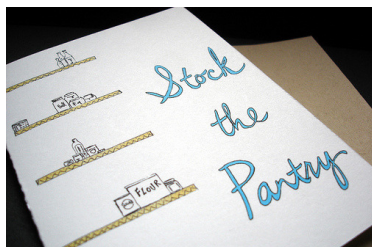
Scripture Memorization for October

2 Corinthians 12:9

“But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”



Take some time this month and let our Pastor, Mike Demastus, and our Youth Workers, Justin and Lindsay Hunerdosse, know how much you appreciate them!



We are having a Pantry Shower for Forrest and Emily Glick on Sunday, October 22nd right after the service. Lunch will be provided. Please bring items to stock their pantry and cleaning closet.

If you would like to help with the shower, please see Shannon!

Missions Ministry

Christian HolyLand Foundation



Christian HolyLand Foundation is the Mission of the Month for October and November.

The purpose of Christian HolyLand Foundation is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the HolyLand and its surrounding areas, and to establish and maintain a base of operations from which churches patterned after the New Testament order may be started.

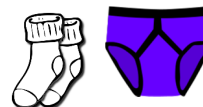
To aid in the accomplishment of this purpose, every practical and scriptural means may be employed, including educational centers, benevolent ministries, cure facilities and training centers.

Mary Rowedder



THANK YOU!!!

Studebaker Elementary was **THRILLED** to receive all of the supplies! They are in need of boys and girls underwear and socks. If you are able to pick any up within the next few weeks, please do so! You can put them in the office and we will make sure they get to the school!



Birthdays

Debbie McMichael 10-1
Sara Peterson 10-2
Jim Meisch 10-3
Sharon Terry 10-4
Caleb Bates 10-5
Lori Kinman 10-5
Tammy Shanks 10-9
Terry Heuton 10-19
Josiah Haynie 10-21

Anniversaries:

Nate and Deanna Ohnemus 10-11
Miles and Sara Peterson 10-18
Jack and Ramona Powell 10-20

Dates to Remember
10/1 Life Chain @2
10/2 PFD
10/8 Prayer Meeting
Board Meeting
10/12 Elder/Deacon Meeting @6
10/22 Pantry Shower for Forrest and Emily
10/25 No Bible Study
10/30 Trunk or Treat

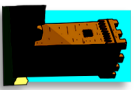
Server Schedule

	10/01/17	10/08/17	10/15/17	10/22/17	10/29/17
Greeters	Roy/Celeste	Dan/Cathy	Charity	Kirk/Ashley	Nate/ Deanna
Scripture	Kirk	Charity	Hunter	Natalie	Justin
Praise Team	Mary/1	Luther and Jennie/2	Jacob/1	Tina/2	Nate/1
Communion Meditation	Nate 2	Jacob	Miles	Kevin	Richard
Server	Hunter	Natalie	Roy	Miles	Doren
Closing Prayer	Lonnie	Richard	Jim	Doren	George
Stewardship	George/Kirk	Terry/Jacob	Nate 1/Dale	Doren/ Shawn	Bruce/Austin
Nursery	LeAnn/ Miranda	Ben/Makya	Stephanie/ Carter	Forrest/ Emily	Nate/ Deanna
Junior Church	Cleo 1:23	Shan 1:24	Ashley 1:25	Justin 1:26	No Jr. Church
Communion Prep	Teressa	Teressa	Teressa	Teressa	Teressa
Communion to the Sick	Lonnie	Richard	Miles	Nate/ Deanna	Jim
Security	Richard/ Doug/Jacob	Nate 2/Justin/ Kirk	Jim/Bruce/ Ben	Austin/ Kevin/ Shawn	Mike/Miles/ Forrest
Welcome Wagon	Dorothy	Dorothy	Dorothy	Dorothy	Dorothy



Mowing in October

10/6 Bruce
10/13 Terry



October 2017



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Life Chain @2		PFD @6:30		Bible Study @6			
8 Prayer Meeting @8 Board Meeting	9		10	11 Bible Study @6	12 Elders/Deacons Meeting @6	13	14
15	16		17	18 Bible Study @6	19	20	21
22 Pantry Shower for Forrest and Emily	23		24	25 No Bible Study!	26	27	28
29	30 Trunk or Treat		31				